

From back alley to ?Art Alley?

City works with community groups to transform tire shop wall

The City of Edmonton is working with community groups to transform the back wall of a tire shop in Old Strathcona into an 'Art Alley' where street artists can leave their mark.

The Tirecraft on Whyte Avenue has been part the Open Source Street Art Pilot Project since 2013. The project gives street artists an opportunity to paint over free-walls at the tire shop and at the Tweddle Place Tennis Building in Mill Woods.

The City's Capital City Clean Up program and Edmonton Arts Council want to take what was learned during the free-wall pilot project by giving local and visiting artists the opportunity to create murals on the back wall of the tire shop. The murals in the 'Art Alley' could be changed once a year.

"Giving artists a space to create not only beautifies an overlooked part of the city," said Katie Hayes, graffiti project manager with Capital City Clean Up. "It also cuts down on the amount of graffiti vandalism found on these spaces and in the surrounding community."

The Open Source Street Art Pilot Project will officially end in March 2016. A decision on the future of the project's site in Mill Woods has not yet been made.

For more information:

Visit: edmonton.ca/graffiti
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